

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An information delivery system, comprising an information delivery device which delivers information, an information storage and playback device which stores information transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information if necessary, and an information communicating means which is connected to the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, wherein:

the information storage and playback device ~~includes~~ comprises means ~~of~~ for storing each of a plurality of partial information of a plurality of delivery information beforehand; means for choosing one of the partial information from the plurality of the stored partial information and reproducing the chosen partial information; and means for giving notice of information that the one of the partial information has been chosen from the plurality of the delivery information to the information delivery device just as reproduction of the chosen partial information starts;

the information delivery device ~~includes a~~ comprises means ~~of~~ for transmitting remaining information of the partial information, which has been chosen to be reproduced and has been notified by the information storage and playback device, to the information storage and playback device just as reproduction of the partial information of the plurality of the delivery information finishes at the information storage and playback device; ~~and~~

the information storage and playback device includes a means ~~of~~ for reproducing the remaining information of the partial information transmitted from the information delivery device; and

~~wherein~~ the partial information of the delivery information, which is transmitted from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and is received and stored in the information storage and playback device, is renewed when necessary.

2. (Currently Amended) An information delivery system, comprising an information delivery device which delivers information, an information storage and playback device which stores information transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information if necessary, and an information communicating means which is connected to the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, wherein:

the information storage and playback device ~~includes~~ comprises: means ~~of~~ for storing each of a plurality of partial information of a plurality of delivery information beforehand; means for choosing one of the partial information from the plurality of the stored partial information and reproducing the chosen partial information; and means for giving notice of information that the one of the partial information has been chosen from the plurality of the delivery information to the information delivery device just as reproduction of the chosen partial information starts;

the information delivery device includes a means of transmitting remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and playback device to the information storage and playback device while the information storage and playback device is reproducing the partial information; ~~and~~

the information storage and playback device ~~includes~~ comprises means ~~of~~ for storing the remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and delivery device, and reproducing the stored remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and playback device just as reproduction of the partial information finishes; and

at least a portion of the plurality of partial information is stored in the means for storing prior to use of the information delivery system by a user.

3. (Currently Amended) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a the means for storing the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand is installed by:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and

storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information which belongs to the information group in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of

the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the plurality of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device.

4. (Currently Amended) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~a~~ the means for storing the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand is installed by:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information which belongs to the information group in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the plurality of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

the partial information of the delivery information, which is transmitted from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and is received and stored in the information storage and playback device, is renewed when necessary; and

a the means for storing the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand is installed by:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information which belongs to the information group in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the

information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the plurality of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in a storage medium by the information storage and playback device.

7. (Original) The information delivery device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information storage and playback device, which includes a plurality of storage mediums for storing information, stores the partial information of the delivery information in a primary storage medium, and stores the partial information of the delivery information and remaining information of the delivery information transmitted from the information delivery device in one of the other storage mediums different from the primary storage medium.

8. (Original) The information delivery device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the information storage and playback device, which includes a plurality of storage mediums for storing information, stores the partial information of the delivery information in a primary storage medium, and stores the partial information of the delivery information and remaining information of the delivery information transmitted from the information delivery device in one of the other storage mediums different from the primary storage medium.

9. (Original) The information delivery device as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the information storage and playback device, which includes a plurality of storage mediums for storing information, stores the partial information of the delivery information in a primary storage medium, and stores the partial information of the delivery information and remaining information of the delivery information transmitted from the information delivery device in one of the other storage mediums different from the primary storage medium; and

the information delivery system employs at least one selected from a removable disk, an optical disk, a phase change optical disk, and a tape medium as a storage medium different from the primal storage medium.

10. (Original) The information delivery device as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

the information storage and playback device, which includes a plurality of storage mediums for storing information, stores the partial information of the delivery information in a primary storage medium, and stores the partial information of the delivery information and remaining information of the delivery information transmitted from the information delivery device in one of the other storage mediums different from the primary storage medium; and

the information delivery system employs at least one selected from a removable disk, an optical disk, a phase change optical disk, and a tape medium as a storage medium different from the primal storage medium.

11. (Currently Amended) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information communicating means includes at least one selected from a communicating means for communicating by an electric wave, a communicating means for communicating by an electric wave going through a satellite, a communicating means for communicating by a public phone line, and a communicating means for communicating by the Internet.

12. (Currently Amended) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the information communicating means includes at least one selected from a communicating means for communicating by an electric wave, a communicating means for communicating by an electric wave going through a satellite, a communicating means for communicating by a public phone line, and a communicating means for communicating by the Internet.

13. (Original) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delivery information includes image information, moving picture information, or voice information.

14. (Original) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the delivery information includes image information, moving picture information, or voice information.

15. (Original) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

the delivery information includes image information, moving picture information, or voice information; and

the delivery information includes compressed data information.

16. (Original) The information delivery system as claimed in claim 2, wherein:

the delivery information includes image information, moving picture information, or voice information; and

the delivery information includes compressed data information.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering information, in an information delivery system comprising an information delivery device which delivers information, an information storage and playback device which stores information transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information if necessary, and an information communicating means which is connected to the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, ~~including steps of~~ the method comprising:

storing each of a plurality of partial information of a plurality of delivery information beforehand in the information storage and playback device;

choosing one of the partial information from the plurality of the stored partial information and reproducing the chosen partial information at the information storage and playback device;

giving notice of information that the one of the partial information has been chosen from the plurality of the delivery information to the information delivery device just as reproduction of the chosen partial information starts; ~~and~~

transmitting remaining information of the partial information, which has been chosen to be reproduced and has been notified by the information storage and playback device to the information storage and playback device just as reproduction of the partial information of the plurality of the delivery information finishes at the information storage and playback device, and reproducing the remaining information of the partial information transmitted from the information delivery device; and

~~wherein~~ the partial information of the delivery information, which is transmitted from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the

information communicating means and is received and stored in the information storage and playback device, is renewed when necessary.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering information, in an information delivery system comprising an information delivery device which delivers information, an information storage and playback device which stores information transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information if necessary, and an information communicating means which is connected to the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, ~~including steps of~~ the method comprising:

storing each of a plurality of partial information of a plurality of delivery information beforehand in the information storage and playback device;

choosing one of the partial information from the plurality of the stored partial information and reproducing the chosen partial information at the information storage and playback device;

giving notice of information that the one of the partial information has been chosen from the plurality of the delivery information to the information delivery device just as reproduction of the chosen partial information starts;

transmitting remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and playback device to the information storage and playback device and storing the remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and delivery device while the information storage and playback device is reproducing the partial information; and

reproducing the stored remaining information of the partial information which has been chosen to be reproduced at the information storage and playback device just as reproduction of the partial information finishes,

wherein at least a portion of the plurality of partial information is stored in the information storage and playback device prior to use of the information delivery system by a user.

19. (Currently Amended) The method for delivering information as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ~~step of storing~~ of the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand ~~includes a step of~~ comprises:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and storing the transmitted part of the information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting the partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of

the delivery information which belongs to the information group in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in the information storage and playback device.

20. (Currently Amended) The method for delivering information as claimed in claim 18, wherein the ~~step of~~ storing of the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand ~~includes a step of~~ comprises:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and storing the transmitted part of the information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting the partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information which belongs to the information group in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in the information storage and playback device.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The method for delivering information as claimed in claim 18, wherein:

the partial information of the delivery information, which is transmitted from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and is received and stored in the information storage and playback device, is renewed when necessary; and

the ~~step of~~ storing of the partial information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device beforehand ~~includes a step of~~ comprises:

connecting a storage medium, in which the partial information of the delivery information is set up by the information delivery device beforehand, to the information storage

and playback device, or transmitting the partial information of the delivery information which is set up by the information delivery device beforehand from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means and storing the transmitted part of the information of the delivery information in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting the partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to an information group chosen to be delivered by the information storage and playback device beforehand, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information which belongs to the information group in the information storage and playback device;

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to a past record of a user of the information storage and playback device, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past record of the user of the information storage and playback device, in the information storage and playback device; or

transmitting partial information of delivery information, which belongs to one of information groups prioritized and sorted out according to past records of a plurality of users of the information storage and playback devices, from the information delivery device to the

information storage and playback device through the information communicating means, and storing the transmitted partial information of the delivery information, which belongs to one of the information groups prioritized and sorted out according to the past records of the users of the information storage and playback devices, in the information storage and playback device.

23. (Currently Amended) A method for accounting for delivery information employing the information delivery system claimed in any one of the claims 1 to 16, wherein:

an information user making use of the information storage and playback device receives image, reflection or voice information from the information delivery device through the information communicating means; and

an information provider, who delivers the image, reflection or voice information to the information user by employing the information delivery device, accounts for use of the image, reflection or voice information by the information user, the accounting including cost information attributable to the information user.

24. (Original) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 23, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

in parallel with a start of reproducing partial information of delivery information;

after a prescribed period of time from a start of reproducing the partial information of the delivery information; or

after reproducing a prescribed amount of the partial information of the delivery information from a start of reproducing the partial information of the delivery information.

25. (Original) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 23, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

in parallel with a start of reproducing remaining information of delivery information;

after a prescribed period of time from a start of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information; or

after reproducing a prescribed amount of the remaining information of the delivery information from a start of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information.

26. (Original) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 23, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

in parallel with a finish of reproducing remaining information of delivery information; or

after a prescribed time of a finish of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information.

27. (Original) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 23, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

in parallel with a start of transmitting remaining information of delivery information;

after a prescribed time of a start of transmitting the remaining information of the delivery information; or

after transmitting a prescribed amount of the remaining information of the delivery information from a start of transmitting the remaining information of the delivery information.

28. (Currently Amended) An information delivery system, comprising an information delivery device which delivers information, an information storage and playback device which stores information transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information if necessary, and an information communicating means which is connected to the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, wherein:

the information storage and playback device ~~includes~~ comprises: means ~~of~~ for storing each of a plurality of partial information of a plurality of delivery information beforehand; means for choosing one of the partial information from the plurality of the stored partial information and reproducing the chosen partial information; and means for giving notice of information that the one of the partial information has been chosen from the plurality of the delivery information to the information delivery device just as reproduction of the chosen partial information starts;

the information delivery device ~~includes a~~ comprises means ~~of~~ for transmitting remaining information of the partial information, which has been chosen to be reproduced and has been notified by the information storage and playback device, to the information storage and playback

device just as reproduction of the partial information of the plurality of the delivery information finishes at the information storage and playback device;~~and~~

the information storage and playback device ~~includes a~~ comprises means ~~of~~ for reproducing the remaining information of the partial information transmitted from the information delivery device;

~~wherein~~ an information user making use of the information storage and playback device receives image, reflection or voice information from the information delivery device through the information communicating means; and

an information provider, who delivers the image, reflection or voice information to the information user by employing the information delivery device, accounts for use of the image, reflection or voice information by the information user, the accounting including cost information attributable to the information user.

29. (Previously Presented) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 28, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

in parallel with a start of reproducing partial information of delivery information;

after a prescribed period of time from a start of reproducing the partial information of the delivery information; or

after reproducing a prescribed amount of the partial information of the delivery information from a start of reproducing the partial information of the delivery information.

30. (Previously Presented) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 28, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

- in parallel with a start of reproducing remaining information of delivery information;
- after a prescribed period of time from a start of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information; or
- after reproducing a prescribed amount of the remaining information of the delivery information from a start of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information.

31. (Previously Presented) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 28, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

- in parallel with a finish of reproducing remaining information of delivery information; or
- after a prescribed time of a finish of reproducing the remaining information of the delivery information.

32. (Previously Presented) The method for accounting in the information storage and playback device as claimed in claim 28, wherein timing of the accounting is chosen from timing:

- in parallel with a start of transmitting remaining information of delivery information;

after a prescribed time of a start of transmitting the remaining information of the delivery information; or

after transmitting a prescribed amount of the remaining information of the delivery information from a start of transmitting the remaining information of the delivery information.

33. (New) An information delivery system, comprising an information delivery device which delivers information files, an information storage and playback device which stores the information files transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information files, and an information communicating means connecting the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, wherein:

the information storage and playback device comprises: means for storing a menu system referencing the information files, and for storing first parts of the information files; means for operating the menu system to choose a first information file of the information files, and for reproducing the first part thereof; and means for giving notice to the information delivery device that the first information file has been chosen, as reproduction of the first part of the first information file starts;

the information delivery device comprises means for transmitting a second part of the first information file to the information storage and playback device;

the information storage and playback device further comprises means for reproducing the second part of the first information file transmitted from the information delivery device; and

the menu system and the first parts of the information files are stored in the means for storing prior to operation of the means for operating the menu system to choose the first information file by a user.

34. (New) The information delivery system of claim 33, wherein the means for transmitting a second part of the first information file to the information storage and playback device transmits the second part of the first information file just as reproduction of the first part of the first information file finishes at the information storage and playback device

35. (New) The information delivery system of claim 33, wherein the information storage and playback device further comprises means for storing the second part of the first information file.

36. (New) The information delivery system of claim 33, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by an information provider at the information delivery device.

37. (New) The information delivery system of claim 33, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by analyzing the user's previous selections

prior to the user's operation of the means for operating the menu system to choose the first information file.

38. (New) The information delivery system of claim 33, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by analyzing other users' previous selections prior to the user's operation of the means for operating the menu system to choose the first information file.

39. (New) The information delivery system of claim 35, wherein: the first part of the first information file is stored exclusively in a first storage medium; and the second part of the first information file is stored exclusively in a second storage medium different from the first storage medium.

40. (New) A method for delivering information, in an information delivery system comprising an information delivery device which delivers information files, an information storage and playback device which stores the information files transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information files, and an information communicating means connecting the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, the method comprising:

storing a menu system referencing the information files, and first parts of the information files, in the information storage and playback system;

operating the menu system in the information storage and playback system to choose a first information file of the information files, and to reproduce the first part thereof;

giving notice from the information storage and playback system to the information delivery device that the first information file has been chosen, as reproduction of the first part of the first information file starts;

transmitting a second part of the first information file from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device; and

reproducing the second part of the first information file transmitted from the information delivery device at the information storage and playback device,

wherein, the menu system and the first parts of the information files are stored in the information storage and playback device prior to the operating of the menu system to choose a first information file by a user.

41. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 40, wherein the transmitting of the second part of the first information file to the information storage and playback device occurs just as reproduction of the first part of the first information file finishes at the information storage and playback device

42. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 40, further comprising storing the second part of the first information file in the information storage and playback device.

43. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 40, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by an information provider at the information delivery device.

44. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 40, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by analyzing the user's previous selections prior to the user's operation of the menu system to choose a first information file.

45. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 40, wherein the menu system and the first parts of the information files are determined by analyzing other users' previous selections prior to the user's operation of the menu system to choose a first information file.

46. (New) The method for delivering information of claim 42, wherein: the first part of the first information file is stored exclusively in a first storage medium; and the second part of the first information file is stored exclusively in a second storage medium different from the first storage medium.

47. (New) An information delivery system, comprising an information delivery device which delivers information files, an information storage and playback device which stores the information files transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information files, and an information communicating means connecting the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, wherein:

the information storage and playback device comprises: means for storing a selector referencing information groups, for storing a menu system referencing the information files, and for storing first parts of the information files; means for operating the selector to choose a first information group of the information groups, and for operating the menu system to choose a first information file of the information files and for reproducing the first part thereof; and means for giving notice to the information delivery device that the first information group has been chosen, and for giving notice to the information delivery device that the first information file has been chosen as reproduction of the first part of the first information file starts;

the information delivery device comprises: means for transmitting the menu system referencing the information files to the information storage and playback device; and means for transmitting a second part of the first information file to the information storage and playback device;

the information storage and playback device further comprises means for reproducing the second part of the first information file;

the selector is stored in the means for storing prior to operation by a user of the information storage and playback device to deliver information; and

the menu system is defined by the information delivery device based on the selection of the first information group.

48. (New) A method for delivering information, in an information delivery system comprising an information delivery device which delivers information files, an information storage and playback device which stores the information files transmitted from the information delivery device and reproduces the information files, and an information communicating means connecting the information delivery device and the information storage and playback device, the method comprising:

storing a selector referencing information groups in the information storage and playback device prior to operation by a user of the information storage and playback device to deliver information;

operating the selector to choose a first information group of the information groups;

giving notice to the information delivery device that the first information group has been chosen;

transmitting a menu system referencing the information files, and first parts of the information files, from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device, the menu system being defined by the information delivery device based on the selection of the first information group;

storing the menu system referencing the information files, and the first parts of the information files, in the information storage and playback device;

operating the menu system in the information storage and playback device to choose a first information file of the information files and to reproduce the first part thereof;

giving notice to the information delivery device that the first information file has been chosen as reproduction of the first part of the first information file starts;

transmitting a second part of the first information file from the information delivery device to the information storage and playback device; and

reproducing the second part of the first information file in the information storage and playback device.